

Representative

Zack Hudgins

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TOWN HALL MEETING

Saturday, February 21st
from noon to 2:00 pm. *(See inside for details)*

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A Report to the 11th District

State Representative

ZACK HUDGINS

February 2004



Dear neighbor,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2004! By the time you receive this report we will have already started this year's 60-day Legislative Session, scheduled to run from January 12 to March 11.

As you may recall from last year, we tackled many challenging issues. But there is still plenty to do. Improving Washington State is a continuous task and everybody is working at it.

Our children remain among our top priorities and they deserve the best gift we can give them: a world-class education. But even with an education, we will need jobs to make their dreams come true. I'm continuing to fight for good jobs with benefits. I'm working to make it harder for corporations to ship jobs out of our state. I'm working on better transportation solutions and I hope to make our health care system more affordable.

I am committed to working with you on the things that matter in our state. I am devoted to serve you as best I can here in Olympia. You chose me to represent you and I never underestimate this privilege.

I'll be holding a Town Hall Meeting in February. You'll find the details inside. Please join me. I am interested in hearing what you have to say about the issues we're facing. As always, I welcome your ideas, comments and questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Zack Hudgins".

Zack Hudgins
State Representative

Hot Topics this session:

- Research and Development Tax Credit Renewal
- Rewriting our Primary Elections Law
- Transportation Solutions
- Following up on the Home Care Workers Contract
- Funding for Education
- Keeping jobs in Washington: fighting outsourcing

State Representative **Zack Hudgins**

Transportation

The State of Washington will be busy in the 11th district working on the roads to make them safer, and to help us all get around better. Here is a partial list of some of the work that will be done in our area. If you have any questions contact the Department of Transportation at 360.705.7000, or look on their website at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/>

- Improvements on I-5 from the Pierce County Line to Tukwila including adding an HOV lane, a truck climb lane, better drainage, and wider bridges.
- Improvements on SR 99, SR 518 in Sea-Tac.
- Improvements on SR 167 including long term planning, HOV lane construction going south, and a new interchange at I-405 in Renton.
- Transportation Analysis on I-405 to improve mobility from Tukwila to Renton.
- Implementation of the Sound Transit project moving through Seattle, Tukwila, and Sea-Tac.
- Safety improvements to the I-5 ramps at Michigan-Corson/Albro/Swift in Seattle.
- SR 99 will be widened for safety in Tukwila.
- SR 515 will be improved with more lanes, and better turning lanes and new signals in Renton.
- SR 900 will see better pedestrian safety in Skyway.

TOWN HALL MEETING

When: Saturday, February 21st From noon to 2:00 pm

Where: Liquor Control Board Distribution Center
4401 East Marginal Way South, Seattle

Picking up the Energy Portfolio once again

You may recall some of the work I did last year regarding the renewable energy portfolio standard. We are still working on the law that would increase the use of energy efficiency and renewable energy like wind, biomass, and geothermal power.

The proposal could bring down rates, create jobs, and clean up the environment. Stay tuned to this issue as it works its way through the legislative process, and incorporates the input of all the stakeholders. (HB 1544, HB 2333)

State Representative **Zack Hudgins**

Preparing for the 2010 Winter Olympics



Vancouver, British Columbia will host the 2010 Winter Olympics, and Washington could benefit from tourist dollars, if travelers feel welcome in our Evergreen state.

I have a proposal that will make it easier to navigate our transit systems – especially for folks that may not speak English. International visitors who are in Vancouver for the Olympics would be able to get around easier, and that means better support for our small businesses from the tourist dollars. (HB 2662)

Washington jobs for Washington workers

I have proposed a few different bills that will begin the discussion about protecting the jobs we have in our state. Our tax dollars shouldn't be used to create jobs overseas when we have a skilled work force right here at home. That's why I have a bill that would outlaw outsourcing state services overseas. (HB 2405)

Sometimes the low cost bidder in the short term is more expensive in the long run. We need to think about this policy as an investment in the future of the state. And we need good information to make good decisions as consumers – that's why I have introduced a bill that would make call centers tell you where they are located while you talk to them. (HB 2351)

We work hard to make sure we have a strong economy in our state, and a diversified economy. Protecting the jobs we have is one way to make sure we build our communities and our tax base. And when jobs do leave our communities we need to have a little warning. That's why I have introduced a bill that would give folks a little advance notice when they are to be laid off, or when they are training their replacements. (HB 1944, HB 2352)

You can look all of these bills up on the House of Representatives website: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/>



Rep. Zack Hudgins, Assistant Majority Whip and Rep. Lynn Kessler, Majority Leader, discuss the bills that are on the calendar.